

Serial No. 10/625,845

Attorney Docket No. 01-448

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LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A voice control system for controlling a target device according to a voice command inputted by a user, comprising:
 - a recognizable voice command storing means for storing, as speech recognition data, a plurality of commands that are used to operate the target device;
 - a speech recognition means for recognizing the voice command inputted by the user as one of the commands stored in the recognizable voice command storing means;
 - a message output means for outputting a message;
 - a function setting detection means for detecting a function setting of the target device;
 - a command executability determination means for determining executability of the voice command inputted by the user in the function setting detected by the function setting detection means and for providing, by the message output means, a correct usage of the voice command inputted by the user when the voice command is determined inexecutable.

2. (Previously presented) The voice control system according to claim 1, wherein:

the command executability determination means includes a relational command list provided to each command;

the message output means outputs a message for notifying the user of an executable command, executability of which in a current function setting detected by the function setting detection means is determined with reference to the relational command list in addition to outputting a message about a proper usage of the command.

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3. (Original) The voice control system according to claim 1, further comprising a substitution determination means for substituting the inexecutable command with a command that is executable in the function setting of the target device, wherein the message output means outputs a message for notifying the user that the voice command is substituted with the executable command.

4. (Original) The voice control system according to claim 3, wherein:

the substitution determination means comprises a relational command list including related commands listed for each command ; and
the substituted command is selected from the relational command list.

5. (Original) The voice control system according to claim 3, wherein:

the substitution determination means stores a frequency in use of each command expressed by a total number of times that each command has been used by the user; and
the substituted command is selected based on the frequency.

6. (Original) The voice control system according to claim 3, wherein the substitution determination means confirms an intention of the user for execution of the substituted command.

7. (Original) The voice control system according to claim 6, wherein:

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the substitution determination means comprises a confirmation-required command list including commands that require confirmation of an intention of the user for execution of a substituted command; and

the substitution determination means refers to the confirmation-required command list when determining whether the substituted command requires the confirmation.

8. (Original) The voice control system according to claim 1, wherein the voice control system is used for a vehicle navigation system having a voice control function.

9. (Previously presented) A voice control method for controlling a target device mounted in a vehicle according to a voice command inputted by a user, the method comprising:

recognizing the voice command inputted by the user as one of predetermined commands to be used in operating the target device, the predetermined commands being stored in a recognizable voice command storage;

detecting an operating condition of the target device;

determining whether the voice command inputted by the user is executable under the detected operating condition of the target device; and

notifying a method of correct usage of the voice command inputted by the user when the voice command inputted by the user is determined inexecutable under the detected operating condition.

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10. (Previously presented) A voice control method for controlling a navigation device mounted in a vehicle according to a voice command inputted by a user, the method comprising:

recognizing the voice command inputted by the user as one of predetermined commands to be used in operating the navigation device, the predetermined commands

being stored in a recognizable voice command storage;

detecting an operating condition of the navigation device;

determining whether the voice command inputted by the user is executable under the detected operating condition of the navigation device; and

prohibiting execution of the voice command inputted by the user when the voice command inputted by the user is determined inexecutable under the detected operating condition.

11. (Previously presented) The voice control system according to claim 1, wherein the function setting detection means of the target device detects function settings by interrupting the operation of the target device.

12. (Previously presented) The voice control system according to claim 1, wherein the command executability determination means further sends a signal to execute the command when the voice command inputted by the user is determined to be executable under the detected operating condition, and wherein the function setting of the target device is changed by executing the command.

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13. (Previously presented) The voice control method according to claim 9, wherein the operating condition is detected by interrupting the operation of the target device.

14. (Previously presented) The voice control method according to claim 9, further comprising sending a signal to execute the command when the voice command inputted by the user is determined to be executable under the detected operating condition, and wherein the function setting of the target device is changed by executing the command.

15. (Previously presented) The voice control method according to claim 10, wherein the operating condition is detected by interrupting the operation of the target device.

16. (Previously presented) The voice control method according to claim 10, further comprising sending a signal to execute the command when the voice command inputted by the user is determined to be executable under the detected operating condition, and wherein the function setting of the target device is changed by executing the command.